

House Bill 1220

By: Representatives Clark of the 108th, Holcomb of the 81st, Kennard of the 102nd, and Carpenter of the 4th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to competencies and core curriculum under the "Quality Basic Education
3 Act," so as to provide that the prescribed course of study in sex education and HIV
4 prevention instruction is age appropriate; to include the subject of consent in such course of
5 study; to provide for implementation; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
6 laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to competencies and core curriculum under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is
11 amended by revising Code Section 20-2-143, relating to sex education and AIDS prevention
12 instruction, implementation, and student exemption, as follows:

13 "20-2-143.

14 (a) Each local board of education shall prescribe a an age-appropriate course of study in
15 sex education and ~~AIDS~~ HIV prevention instruction for such grades and grade levels in the
16 public school system as shall be determined by the State Board of Education. Such course
17 of study shall implement either the minimum course of study provided for in subsection (b)

of this Code section or its equivalent, as approved by the State Board of Education. Each local board of education shall be authorized to supplement and develop the exact approach of content areas of such minimum course of study with such specific curriculum standards as it may deem appropriate. Such standards shall include age-appropriate instruction ~~relating to~~ concerning consent, the handling of peer pressure, the promotion of high self-esteem, local community values, the legal consequences of parenthood, and abstinence from sexual activity as an effective method of prevention of pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and ~~acquired immune deficiency syndrome~~ human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

(b) The State Board of Education shall prescribe a an age-appropriate minimum course of study in sex education and ~~AIDS~~ HIV prevention instruction which may be included as a part of a course of study in comprehensive health education for such grades and grade levels in the public school system as shall be determined by the state board and shall establish standards for its administration. The course may include age-appropriate instruction concerning human biology, conception, pregnancy, birth, sexually transmitted diseases, and ~~acquired immune deficiency syndrome~~ human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The course shall include age-appropriate instruction concerning the legal consequences of parenthood, including, without being limited to, the legal obligation of both parents to support a child and legal penalties or restrictions upon failure to support a child, including, without being limited to, the possible suspension or revocation of a parent's driver's license and occupational or professional licenses. The course shall ~~also~~ include annual age-appropriate instruction for students in kindergarten through grade nine concerning consent and the awareness and prevention of sexual abuse and assault ~~awareness and prevention education in kindergarten through grade nine~~. A manual setting out the details of such course of study shall be prepared by or approved by the State School Superintendent in cooperation with the Department of Public Health, the State Board of Education, and such expert advisers as they may choose.

(c) The minimum course of study to be prescribed by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section shall be ready for implementation not later than ~~July 1, 1988~~ August 1, 2022. Each local board shall implement either such minimum course of study or its equivalent not later than July 1, ~~1989~~ 2023. Any local board of education which fails to comply with this subsection shall not be eligible to receive any state funding under this article until such minimum course of study or its equivalent has been implemented.

(d) Any parent or legal guardian of a child to whom the course of study set forth in this Code section is to be taught shall have the right to elect, in writing, that such child not receive such course of study."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.